

NOTICE OF VIOLATION

Southern Nuclear Operating Company
Farley Nuclear Plant, Units 1 and 2

Docket Nos.: 50-348 and 50-364
License Nos.: NPF-2 and NPF-8

During an NRC inspection conducted during the period September 8-12, 1997, certain violations of NRC requirements were identified. In accordance with the "General Statement of Policy and Procedures for NRC Enforcement Actions," NUREG-1600, the violations are listed below:

10 CFR 50.65(a)(1) requires, in part, the holders of an operating license shall monitor the performance or condition of structures, systems and components (SSCs), as defined by 10 CFR 50.65(b), against licensee-established goals, in a manner sufficient to provide reasonable assurance that such SSCs are capable of fulfilling their intended functions. When the performance or condition of a SSCs does not meet established goals, appropriate corrective action shall be taken.

10 CFR 50.65(a)(2) requires, in part, that monitoring as specified in 10 CFR 50.65 (a)(1) is not required where it has been demonstrated that the performance or condition of an SSC is being effectively controlled through the performance of appropriate preventive maintenance, such that the SSC remains capable of performing its intended function.

Contrary to the above, 10 CFR 50.65(a)(2) was not adequately implemented, in that:

1. From July 10, 1996, the time that the licensee elected to not monitor the performance or condition of 15 high-safety-significant SSCs within the scope of 10 CFR 50.65 against licensee-established goals pursuant to requirements of Section (a)(1), to June 13, 1997, the licensee had not demonstrated that the performance of the 15 SSCs had been effectively controlled through the performance of appropriate preventive maintenance. Specifically, the licensee failed to establish availability performance measures for the 15 high-safety-significant SSCs as the means to demonstrate that the performance or condition of the SSCs was being effectively controlled through the performance of appropriate preventive maintenance.
2. On June 13, 1997, for each of the 15 SSCs (in paragraph 1., above) and seven other SSCs, the licensee established an availability preventive maintenance measure to demonstrate that the performance or condition of the 22 SSCs was being effectively controlled through the conduct of appropriate preventive maintenance such that they remained capable of performing their intended function. However, as of September 12, 1997, the licensee had not implemented these measures and thus had failed to demonstrate that the performance or condition of the 22 SSCs was being effectively controlled such that they remained capable of performing their intended function pursuant to the requirements of 10 CFR 50.65 (a)(2).

This is a Severity Level IV violation (Supplement I).

Pursuant to the provisions of 10 CFR 2.201, Southern Nuclear Operating Company is hereby required to submit a written statement or explanation to the U. S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, ATTN: Document Control Desk, Washington, D.C. 20555 with a copy to the Regional Administrator, Region II, and a copy to the NRC Resident Inspector at the Farley facility, within 30 days of the date of the letter transmitting this Notice of Violation (Notice). This reply should be clearly marked "Reply to a Notice of Violation" and should include for each violation: (1) the reason for the violation, or, if contested, the basis for disputing the violation, (2) the corrective steps that have been taken and the results achieved, (3) the corrective steps that will be taken to avoid further violations, and (4) the date when full compliance will be achieved. Your response may reference or include previous docketed correspondence, if the correspondence adequately addresses the required response. If an adequate reply is not received within the time specified in this Notice, an order or Demand for Information may be issued as to why the license should not be modified, suspended, or revoked, or why such other action as may be proper should not be taken. Where good cause is shown, consideration will be given to extending the response time.

Because your response will be placed in the NRC Public Document Room (PDR), to the extent possible, it should not include any personal privacy, proprietary, or safeguards information so that it can be placed in the PDR without redaction. However, if you find it necessary to include such information, you should clearly indicate the specific information that you desire not to be placed in the PDR, and provide the legal basis to support your request for withholding the information from the public.

Dated at Atlanta, Georgia
this 20th day of October 1997